

Dear Bud,

3/17/81

St. Patrick's day is not a bit too soon for expressing thanks for a thoughtful Christmas card.

I've been lazy - in bursts. In part also because I can't sit long enough to concentrate and in part because when I was hospitalized I reverted to a bad habit, of reading.

By and large we've been OK. Some ways I can do more, some I can't. I'm sleeping well and I feel fine, except for the left foot, where the clots settled down. It limits me to an extent to which I'm still adjusting. I can't walk much and can't stand still at all. I'm getting a wheel ~~walks~~ chair so I can do more. I'll wheel it to where I have to sit down and elevate the leg, then I'll use it.

Little by little I'm getting the DJ Criminal Division JFK assassination file. In a few days I'm to begin getting some of the Dallas FBI records that were not provided. Until I see them I won't know what is included. They are to include the files on the critics. There will also be some New Orleans files not provided earlier. After these new disclosures there is to be some reprocessing of the records that were provided, including the index.

In the mail are a few more King records. One reflects the suspicion of the Attorney General's office that Stanley Levison, who was very close to King, was an FBI informer. (I've no reason to believe it and don't know if the records hold any basis for the suspicion. If they don't I'll be asking.)

Kim Lesar has found time to start working on the appeal from the revocation of the fee waiver. Having won it again in a different suit, ordinarily it would be more difficult to persist in the revocation. Ordinary considerations, however, do not apply in DJ and FBI and with me. After that is acted on I'll start pushing for the political files on King, "security" to the FBI. If I didn't tell you, the inventory of field office holdings is a few pages more than 400. That many files and an enormous number of pages.

We've had a fairly mild winter and I've been able to provide most of our heat with wood. What should make most of the fuel for winter after next is down and when they can friends are working it up. I've been able to bring it into the house, with a little difficulty, but I alone do that. Saw the surgeon last Wednesday and he encourages me to do some of the things that cause pain, as I've been doing. This is to say that he approved. He also said I don't have to go back for another check for two months, which suggests that he is pleased with whatever he sees.

I've gone through the preliminary preliminaries of a King assassination book. I've reorganized the files of FBI duplicates selected and copied for it and next I'll be rereading them. I think it can be an important book and I'm hoping that with warmer weather, which will permit more exercise, I'll get to the point where I'll feel more like writing.

I've been able to identify some Navy files on Oswald. Instead of seeking them myself I suggested to Bud Fensterwald that he do it. He has and we'll get copies that way. These appear to be files the Warren Commission did not have but the list of them that I got from the Defense Dept. doesn't make that certain.

I'll use my time in going after what others might not have as good a shot at.
Hope everything is going well with all of you.

Our best,